

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 6, 8, 10, 14, and 16 are currently pending in this application, Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, 12, and 13 having been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1, 4 and 5 were objected to; Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, 12, and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as anticipated by Iwama et al. (JP 11-24507, hereinafter Iwama) in view of Kawaguchi et al. (JP 2002-251078a, hereinafter Kawaguchi); and Claims 2, 6, 8, 10, 14, and 16 were allowed.

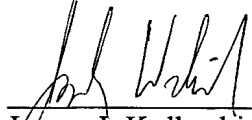
Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesy of an interview extended to Applicant's representative on January 26, 2007. During the interview, differences between the present invention and the applied art, and the rejections noted in the outstanding Office Action were discussed. No agreement was reached pending the Examiner's further review when a response is filed.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. In light of this indication, rejected Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, 12, and 13 have been canceled.

As no other issues remain outstanding, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. An Action to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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